

2004 VA Environmental Excellence Award

Each year, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recognizes employees and facilities that make positive and significant contributions to our environment through the VA Environmental Excellence Award Program (previously known as the VA Closing the Circle Award Program). The winning nomination in the category of outreach and education demonstrates outstanding environmental stewardship. Personnel from VA's Veterans Health Administration (VHA) formed a unique partnership with representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to improve environmental programs at VHA. With its pro-active approach, the team scored significant successes by initiating two innovative programs: media-based environmental compliance training for senior managers and voluntary environmental management reviews, already performed at several VA medical centers. These collaborative efforts support and advance the goals of Executive Order 13148, Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management.

Please join the Assistant Secretary for Management and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management in congratulating the winners of the 2004 VA Environmental Excellence Award. Their leadership in environmental initiatives serves as an example to the entire Federal community.

Award Recipients

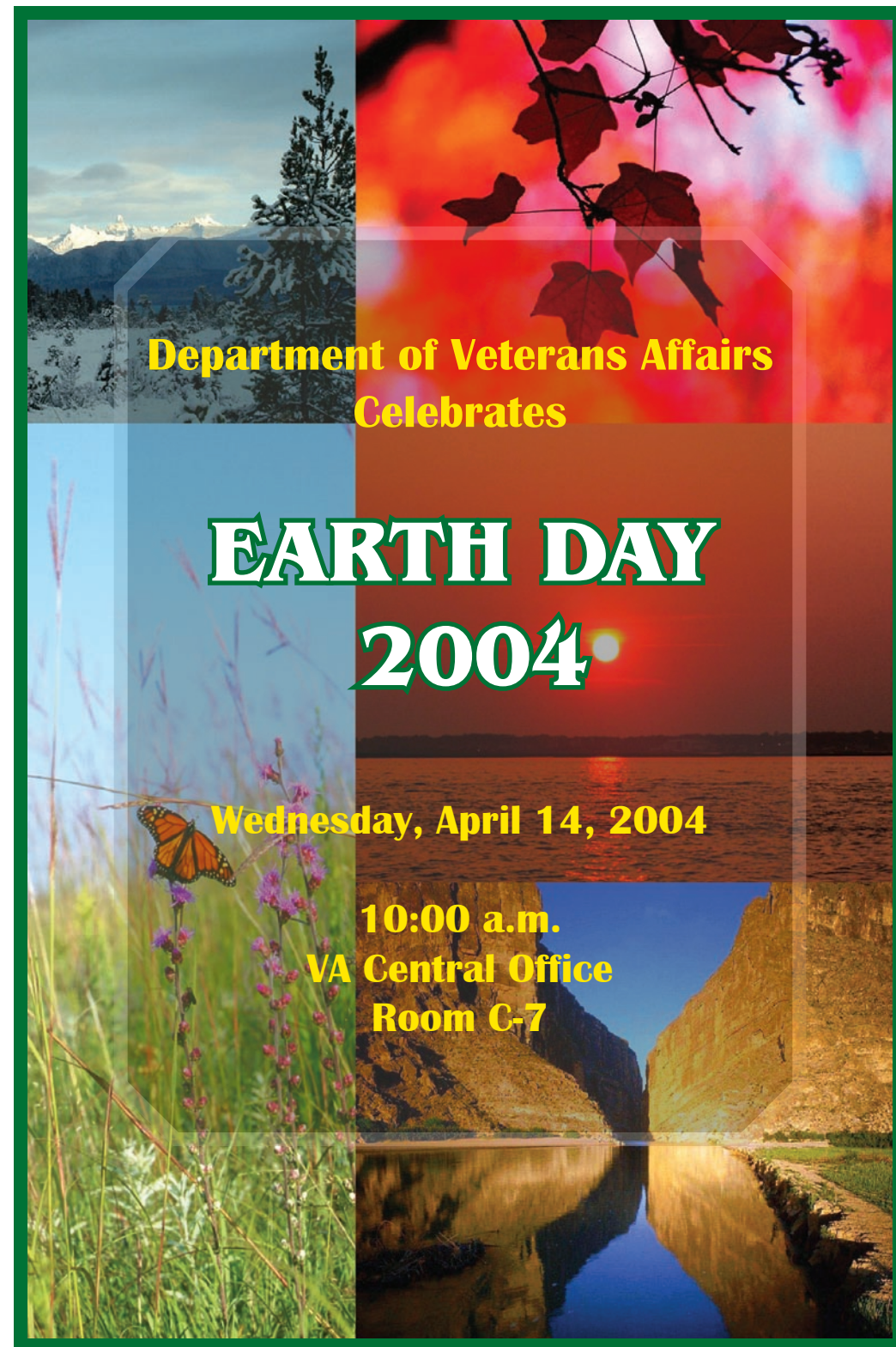
**Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for Health
for Operations and Management
Veterans Health Administration**

- ✿ Arnold Bierenbaum, VHA, VA Central Office, Washington, D.C.
- ✿ Linda Martin, Center for Engineering and Occupational Safety and Health, St. Louis, Missouri
- ✿ Jack Staudt, VHA, VA Central Office, Washington, D.C.
- ✿ Marilyn Waggoner, Veterans Health Care System, Austin, Texas

**Federal Facilities Enforcement Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

- ✿ Diane Lynne, Headquarters, EPA Washington, D.C.
- ✿ Greg Snyder, Headquarters, EPA Washington, D.C.

Printed on Recycled Paper



EARTH DAY 2004

Partnering for a More Sustainable Earth

April 22 marks the official anniversary of Earth Day, started in 1970 by Gaylord Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin. The first Earth Day focused national attention on the environment that led to passage of significant environmental protection laws and to creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Earth Day promotes good environmental stewardship and positive actions that will result in a healthier and safer environment.

Millions of people around the world gather on April 22 to celebrate Earth Day and participate in environmental activities such as clean-ups, tree planting ceremonies, and recycling fairs. This annual event provides the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) an opportunity to renew and strengthen its commitment to the environment. VA encourages all employees to participate in programs that prevent or reduce waste, increase recycling, and promote the purchase of environmentally friendly products.

The Federal Government's theme for Earth Day 2004 is **Partnering for a More Sustainable Earth**. Working together, we can send a message that our planet is precious and belongs to all of us. In protecting our environment today, we are building a healthier tomorrow for our children and grandchildren. To learn how you can support Earth Day every day at work, at home, and in your community, visit the Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management's Environmental Affairs – Greening VA web site at <http://www.va.gov/oamm/recycle> or the Federal Earth Day portal at <http://www.EarthDay.gov>.

VA thanks all its employees for their commitment and dedication to protecting the environment while serving our Nation's veterans.

PROGRAM

Welcoming Remarks

David S. Derr
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Acquisition and Materiel Management



Opening Remarks

The Honorable William H. Campbell
Assistant Secretary for Management
VA Environmental Executive



Musical Entertainment

“The Butterflies,” U.S. Kids Childcare Development Center



Award Ceremony

2004 VA Environmental Excellence Award



“The Biobased Revolution”

Dan Manternach
Managing Director, Biobased Manufacturers Association



VA's EARTH EXPO 2004 Vendor Fair will open with a ribbon-cutting ceremony immediately after this program

Light refreshments will be served.